

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /107 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/RPE:ACALBRECHT

EB/OT/TA:DJ DUNFORD (SUBSTANCE)

EUR/P:WGEHRON

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R 050114Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 193532

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: POULTRY/COGNAC

REF: EC BRUSSELS 7634

1. QUESTION OF PUBLICATION OF HEARING NOTICE REGARDING
COGNAC TARIFF DID NOT ARISE IN DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS
BRIEFING AUGUST 4.

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2. TEXT OF PREPARED PRESS GUIDANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Q. A EUROPEAN COMMUNITY SPOKESMAN HAS CRITICIZED THE U.S. DECISION TO HOLD HEARINGS ON RAISING THE DUTY ON COGNAC, CALLING IT A UNILATERAL ACT. WHAT IS THE U.S. REACTION?

A. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROVISIONALLY REDUCED THE DUTY ON BRANDY VALUED AT BETWEEN 9 DOLS AND 17 DOLS PER GALLON IN JULY, 1974. THIS WAS A POSITIVE STEP ON OUR PART TO ENCOURAGE THE RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS -- DATING BACK TO THE EARLY 1960'S -- CAUSED BY UNREASONABLE RESTRICTIONS MAINTAINED BY THE EC ON POULTRY IMPORTED FROM THE U.S. UNFORTUNATELY, THE AMOUNT OF PROTECTION THE EC MAINTAINS ON POULTRY HAS ACTUALLY INCREASED OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS AND WE ARE OBLIGED TO CONSIDER RESTORING THE DUTY TO ITS PREVIOUS LEVEL. NO FINAL

DECISION WILL BE MADE UNTIL AFTER HEARINGS ARE HELD IN SEPTEMBER. WE REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT A RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM WILL BE POSSIBLE AND THAT IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY TO RESTORE THE DUTY ON COGNAC TO ITS PREVIOUS HIGHER LEVEL. HABIB

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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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